

## State of Wisconsin Jim Doyle, Governor

# Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent



# \*\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*\*

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# First Lady Doyle, State Superintendent Burmaster Present Governor's School Health Awards

Twenty-seven schools receive awards

MADISON—At a ceremony at the State Capitol Thursday, First Lady Jessica Doyle and State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced the 2008 winners of the Governor's School Health Awards.

The awards are given to schools in recognition of their effort to develop programs, policies, and resources that support students' academic achievement and long-term physical health.

"The schools that are being recognized with a Governor's School Health Award have created opportunities for everyone in their school to become healthier and more physically fit," said First Lady Doyle. "Healthier students support healthier communities, which in turn support a healthier Wisconsin."

"These awards recognize schools for developing and maintaining quality school health programs, and for involving parents and the community to improve the long-term health of their students," said Burmaster. "We encourage all Wisconsin families, teachers, school administrators, students, and community members to join forces to promote student health and academic outcomes."

Gov. Jim Doyle and Burmaster created the Governor's School Health Award program to encourage and inspire schools to strengthen their efforts to create a healthy school environment that combats childhood obesity and contributes to increased student achievement and closing the achievement gap. Many schools have been taking steps in various nutrition and physical activity areas to improve the school setting. However, many of those steps were isolated or independent of a school-wide initiative. The Governor's School Health Award program packages key policies and programs to help schools deliver a more coordinated school health program with an emphasis on nutrition and physical activity.

"We all know children learn healthy habits and lifestyles in many places: in the classroom, in gymnasiums and on playing fields, in the cafeteria, at home, and in the community," said Burmaster.

"Encouraging students' nutritional health and fitness will contribute to their academic learning and help us close the achievement gap."

To earn a Governor's School Health Award, the schools assemble a team to review the school's health, nutrition, and physical activity programs and policies. The schools then complete and submit the online award application. A panel from the departments of Health and Family Services and Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Partnership for Activity and Nutrition, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health reviewed the applications.

The 2008 Governor's School Health Award winners are

## **Gold Awards**

Altoona Middle School
DeLong Middle School, Eau Claire
Edison Elementary School, Appleton
Hortonville High School
James Fenimore Cooper School, Milwaukee
Marshall Middle School, Janesville
Richmond Elementary School, Appleton
Tri-County Elementary School

#### Silver Awards

Chippewa Falls Middle School Highlands Elementary School, Appleton Neal Wilkins Elementary School, Platteville New Holstein Elementary School Northside Elementary School, Middleton Platteville High School Platteville Middle School Riverside Elementary School, Menomonee Falls Somerset High School Tomahawk High School Westview Elementary School, Platteville

#### **Bronze Awards**

Bay View Middle School, Green Bay
Howard-Suamico School District
Bloomer Middle School
La Farge Schools
Lincoln-Erdman Elementary School, Sheboygan
Longfellow Elementary School, Clintonville
Minocqua-Hazelhurst-Lake Tomahawk
Elementary School
New Richmond East Elementary School
Rockwell Elementary School, Fort Atkinson

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**NOTES:** For more information about the Governor's School Health Award program and how to apply, please view the Governor's School Health Award website at <a href="http://www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov/">http://www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov/</a>. This news release is available electronically at <a href="http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008-88.pdf">http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008-88.pdf</a>.